

APPENDIX A

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nar-ra-tive [nar-uh-tiv]

-noun

1. a story or account of events, experiences, or the like, whether true or fictitious.
2. a book, literary work, etc., containing such a story.
3. the art, technique, or process of narrating: Somerset Maugham was a master of narrative.

-adjective

4. consisting of or being a narrative: a narrative poem.
5. of or pertaining to narration: narrative skill.
6. Fine Arts: representing stories or events pictorially or sculpturally: narrative painting. Compare **ANECDDOTAL** (def. 2).

Origin:

1555-65; < L *narrātīvus* suitable for narration. See **NARRATE**, **-IVE**

Related forms:

nar-ra-tive-ly, **adverb**

Synonyms:

L CHRONICLE, tale, NARRATIVE, ACCOUNT, RECITAL, HISTORY are terms for a story of an event or events. NARRATIVE is the general term (for a story long or short; of past, present, or future; factual or imagined; told for any purpose; and with or without much detail). The other three terms apply primarily to factual stories of time already past. An account is usually told informally, often for entertainment, with emphasis on details of action, whether about an incident or a series of happenings. A RECITAL is an extended narrative usually with an informative purpose, emphasizing accuracy and exhaustive details of facts and figures. A HISTORY, usually written and at some length, is characterized by a tracing of causes and effects, and by an attempt to estimate, evaluate, and interpret facts.

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nar-ra-tive (nār'a-tiv)

n.

1. A narrated account; a story.
2. The art, technique, or process of narrating.

adj.

1. Consisting of or characterized by the telling of a story: narrative poetry.
2. Of or relating to narration: narrative skill.

nar-ra-tive-ly **adv.**

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Word Origin & History

narrative (adj.)

c.1450, from M.Fr. *narratif*, from L.L. *narrativus* "suited to narration," 1561, from the adjective. Narrator first attested 1611; in sense of "a

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